

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the Application.

1. (Previously Presented) An agent comprising:
a first oxidant comprising a water-soluble permanganate,
a second oxidant whose oxidation potential exceeds that of a mixture containing 50 mol% manganese VII and 50 mol% manganese VI; and
a primary and/or secondary alkali carbonate,
wherein the agent is in a liquid form and is storage-stable, and
wherein concentrations of ingredients are such that the agent is pH buffered and storage-stable in liquid form.

2. (Previously Presented) The agent according to Claim 1, wherein the oxidation potential of the second oxidant is above that of HO_2^- to OH^- .

3. (Previously Presented) The agent according to Claim 1, wherein the second oxidant comprises a persulfate.

4. (Previously Presented) The agent according to Claim 19, wherein the peroxodisulfate comprises sodium peroxodisulfate.

5. (Previously Presented) The agent according to Claim 1, wherein the permanganate comprises potassium permanganate.

6. (Previously Presented) The agent according to Claim 1, wherein the agent comprises sodiumtripolyphosphate.

7. (Previously Presented) The agent according to Claim 1, wherein the agent contains sodium hexametaphosphate.

8. (Previously Presented) The agent according to Claim 1, wherein the agent comprises the following composition:

- 3-5% sodiumperoxodisulfate,
- 0.06-0.08% potassium permanganate,
- 5-7% sodium tripolyphosphate,
- 9-11% sodium hexametaphosphate,
- 2.0-3.0%, of the mixture of sodium carbonate and sodium hydrogen carbonate.

9. (Previously Presented): A method for cleaning, disinfection, and monitoring cleanliness, comprising: combining the agent of Claim 1 with water to form a first aqueous solution;

combining an alkaline agent with the first aqueous solution to form a second aqueous solution, wherein the alkaline agent is configured to ensure a pH of the second aqueous solution of at least 11;

and

tracking the cleaning progress by monitoring an intensity of light passed through the second aqueous solution.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, wherein the light comprises violet, green and/or yellow wavelength.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, further comprising circulating the second aqueous solution through the components to be cleaned and/or disinfected.

12. (Canceled):

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, wherein the agent comprises the following composition:

- 3-5% sodium peroxodisulfate,
- 0.06-0.08% potassium permanganate,
- 5-7% sodium tripolyphosphate,
- 9-11% sodium hexametaphosphate,
- 2.0-3.0%, of a mixture of sodium carbonate and sodium hydrogen carbonate.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, wherein the monitoring the intensity of the light is ascertained automatically.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, wherein the cleanliness is calculated from the intensity change of the light passed through the second aqueous solution and the quantity of the agent used.

16. – 17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 9, further comprising circulating the alkaline agent through the components to be cleaned and/or disinfected and subsequently combining the alkaline agent with the first aqueous solution.

19. (Previously Presented): The agent according to Claim 3, wherein the second oxidant comprises a peroxodisulfate.

20. (Previously Presented) The agent according to Claim 1, wherein the agent is in a liquid form and storage-stable.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the method is configured to clean carbonators, fillers or brewery.

22. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 1, wherein the composition changes color on contact with the substance external to the composition, wherein said color change allows a visual evaluation of an amount of the substance external to the composition oxidized by the composition.

23. (Previously Presented) The composition as Claimed in Claim 1, wherein the color change is from purple to a second color other than purple.

24. (Previously Presented) The composition as Claimed in Claim 23, wherein the second color is green.

25. (Previously Presented) The composition as Claimed in Claim 23, wherein the second color is yellow.

26. (Previously Presented) The composition as Claimed in Claim 1, wherein the composition changes color upon contact with a substance external to the composition, wherein the substance external to the composition comprises an organic substance.

27. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 26, wherein the water-soluble permanganate reacts with the organic substance.

28. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 26, wherein a peroxodisulfate reacts with the organic substance.

29. (Previously Presented) The composition as Claimed in Claim 1, wherein the composition changes color upon contact with a substance external to the composition, wherein the substance external to the composition comprises an organic substance, the second oxidant comprises peroxodisulfate, and both the water-soluble permanganate and the peroxodisulfate react with the organic substance.

30. (Previously Presented) The composition as Claimed in Claim 1, wherein the agent comprises: a peroxodisulfate, a polyphosphate, a metaphosphate, and a carbonate.

31. (Currently Amended) An agent comprising:
a first oxidant comprising a water-soluble permanganate,
a second oxidant whose oxidation potential exceeds that of a mixture containing 50 mol% manganese VII and 50 mol% manganese VI; and
a pH buffer,
wherein the agent is in a liquid form and is storage-stable, and
wherein concentrations of ingredients are such that the agent is pH buffered and storage-stable in liquid form.

32. (Previously Presented) The agent of Claim 31, wherein the pH buffer comprises an alkali.

33. (Previously Presented) The agent of Claim 32, wherein the alkali comprises a primary and/or secondary alkali carbonate.

34. (Currently Amended) An aqueous solution comprising an agent, the agent comprising:
a first oxidant comprising a water-soluble permanganate,

a second oxidant whose oxidation potential exceeds that of a mixture containing 50 mol% manganese VII and 50 mol% manganese VI; and
a pH buffer,
wherein the agent is in a liquid form and is storage-stable, and
wherein concentrations of ingredients are such that the agent is pH buffered and storage-stable in liquid form.

35. (Previously Presented) The aqueous solution of Claim 34, wherein the pH buffer comprises an alkali.

36. (Previously Presented) The aqueous solution of Claim 35, wherein the alkali comprises a primary and/or secondary alkali carbonate.

37. (Previously Presented) The aqueous solution of Claim 34, further comprising an alkaline agent, wherein the alkaline agent is configured to ensure a pH of the aqueous solution of at least 11.

38. (Previously Presented) The aqueous solution of Claim 34, further comprising an alkaline agent, wherein the alkaline agent is configured to ensure a pH of the aqueous solution of at least 12.

39. (Previously Presented) The agent of Claim 31, further comprising a hardness stabilizer.

40. (Previously Presented) The agent of Claim 38, wherein the hardness stabilizer comprises a polyphosphate.

41. (Previously Presented) The aqueous solution of Claim 34, further comprising a hardness stabilizer.

42. (Previously Presented) The aqueous solution of Claim 41, wherein the hardness stabilizer comprises a polyphosphate.

43. (Previously Presented) The aqueous solution of Claim 34, wherein the aqueous solution is ready for use in cleaning a surface in a plant.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the second aqueous solution is in a form ready for use in cleaning a surface in a plant.

45. (Previously Presented) The aqueous solution of Claim 37, wherein the aqueous solution is ready for use in cleaning a surface in a plant.

46. (New) A process for the cleaning of an installation, comprising the steps of rinsing the installation with an alkaline cleaning solution, testing the result of the cleaning for compliance with a previously determined final cleaning result by using an indicator agent on the basis of permanganate in an alkaline environment, and subsequently introducing the indicator agent that is used as an indicator into the alkaline cleaning solution for further use as a cleaning agent in a subsequent cleaning step.

47. (New) A process in accordance with claim 46, and collecting the alkaline cleaning solution, after the cleaning run, in an alkaline solution container for reuse.

48. (New) A process in accordance with claim 47, and introducing the indicator agent used into the alkaline solution container.

49. (New) A process in accordance with claim 46, and rinsing the installation with at least one additional agent, and introducing the indicator agent into the installation after the last cleaning step.

50. (New) A process in accordance with claim 46, and introducing the indicator agent into the installation before a sterilization step.

51. (New) A process in accordance with claim 46, and determining a change brought about by the indicator agent by means of a monitoring device, and comparing that determined change with a theoretical value.

52. (New) A process in accordance with claim 51, wherein the monitoring device has a first and a second color value detector, whereby the first color value detector is positioned in front of the entrance of the indicator agent into the installation, and the second color value detector is positioned after the exit of the installation.

53. (New) A process in accordance with claim 51, wherein the change brought about is a change in color.

54. (New) A process in accordance with claim 46, wherein before the testing of the cleaning result, locating the indicator agent inside a storage tank.

55. (New) The agent of claim 1, wherein the agent is configured to monitor cleanliness by changing color.

56. (New) The agent of claim 31, wherein the agent is configured to monitor cleanliness by changing color.

57. (New) The aqueous solution of claim 34, wherein the aqueous solution is configured to monitor cleanliness by changing color.